



The President's Daily Brief

~~Top Secret~~ 8 November 1967



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FOR THE PRESIDENT'S EYES ONLY

Special Daily Report on North Vietnam



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Approved for Release: 2018/06/29 C05974109

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I. NOTES ON THE SITUATION

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Viet Cong Claims US Troops are Disobeying Orders: The Communists have issued one of their periodic statements about the insubordination of US military units in South Vietnam. A clandestine Liberation Front broadcast on 4 November said that an "antiwar movement" against orders to move troops to the northern provinces was spreading among US units. The broadcast also reported that many US units stationed at various points throughout the I Corps area had violently participated in the anti-war movement and that "US Negro troops sharply struggled against orders" thereby "throwing their commanders into a confused state."

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Le Duan on Communist Unity: North Vietnam has issued a lengthy article in praise of the Bolshevik Revolution and its lessons for today's struggle against the US. The article was written by Party First Secretary Le Duan, now in Moscow as head of

Hanoi's delegation to the anniversary celebrations, and was published in the party daily Nhan Dan. It is much broader and more pointed than the pro forma items by Ho Chi Minh and Defense Minister Giap which appeared recently in the Soviet press.

Le Duan comes down hard on the need for Communist unity in pursuing the struggle in Vietnam. He employs more specific language on this point than any Vietnamese Communist spokesman has recently used. Today's "urgent problem," he says, "is to consolidate and strengthen the unity of the socialist camp," and the "unity of the international Communist movement" in order to continue the "common struggle for socialist revolution." Le Duan calls for the "establishment of a world united front" against the United States similar to that used by the USSR in the 1930's against Nazi Germany. He asserts that setting up such a front is one of the "most basic problems" facing the Communist movement.

While his call for Communist unity doubtless will please Soviet leaders, Le Duan also reaffirms North Vietnam's insistence on revolutionary violence as an indispensable ingredient of national liberation movements. He emphasizes the responsibility of all Communist countries to support these movements wherever they exist, but makes it clear that the present task is focused on the struggle in Vietnam. The "world revolution," he reminds his audience, will surely enter a new phase "provided the socialist camp and other revolutionary forces in the world prove resolute" in further promoting the "offensive spirit of the October Revolution and follow the revolutionary line of Marxism-Leninism."

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II. NORTH VIETNAMESE REFLECTIONS OF US POLITICAL ATTITUDES ON THE WAR

Hanoi Appeals to US Negro Troops: A recent broadcast in English to American servicemen in South Vietnam--purporting to be "especially designed for the Negro GI"--claimed that the "colored" troops in the South are becoming increasingly conscious of the fact that the war is "not their war." The broadcast cited a number of examples of injustices by the military against the Negroes and concluded that "many colored GI's in South Vietnam are wondering for whom they are fighting and dying," and that Stokely Carmichael, "well-known leader of colored Americans," will "deal with the matter."

A similar broadcast presents an appeal by Carmichael to Negro troops. Carmichael's tirade contains assertions that the Vietnam war is the "white man's war" and that Negroes should not fight in it.

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